

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed after receiving a Notice of Allowance mailed on September 25, 2009. Pending claims 1, 7, 9, 17-30, 44-46, 48, 52, 54, 56, 59, 77, 79, 100, 104, 111, 119, 121, 122, 124-168 have been allowed. The Examiner is thanked for the Notice of Allowance.

In this amendment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.312, the paragraph at page 1 between the Title of the application and Field of Invention has been amended to specify that the application was filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371 as a national stage application of International Application No. PCT/US2003/24209, as acknowledged in the Official Filing Receipt mailed November 21, 2005.

Claims 1, 7, 9, 17-30, 44-46, 48, 52, 54, 56, 59, 77, 121-122, 131, 132, and 136-168 are also amended. Claims 1, 7, 20-29, 44-46, 48, 52, 54, 56, 59, 77, and 153 have been amended to add punctuation within the claims. Claims 7 and 142 have been amended to delete the redundant second use of the phrase "or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof." Claims 7 and 142 has been amended to replace the phrase "the wavy line is" with the phrase "the wavy line indicates." Dependent claims 9, 17 and 137-140 have been amended to replace the term "a" with the term "the." Claims 18-30, 121, 131-132, 139, 145 and 148 have been amended to replace the term "where" with the term "wherein." Claims 7, 44, 122, 136, 141, 142 and 164 are amended to add a colon and semicolon, and to delete the redundant second use of the term "wherein" and/or "where". Dependant claim 122 is amended to delete the redundant definition of the variable "a." Claims 143-152, 154-163, 166 and 168 are amended to clarify that the scope of the claims includes a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the drug-linker-ligand conjugates. Claim 145 has been amended to move the location of the recitation concerning a pharmaceutically acceptable salt for consistency purposes. Dependent claims 165 and 167 have been amended to move the location of the reference to the claims from which they depend for consistency purposes.

Applicants also note that the term "or" after the first use of the term "salt" was deleted but not shown as an amendment in the amendment filed July 30, 2008 in response to the

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Amdt. dated October 2, 2009
Response to Notice of Allowance September 25, 2009

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Office Action of April 29, 2008. While not shown as an amendment, this term is deleted in claim 1 herein. Applicants also note that the structure of the Drug unit, D, was changed but not shown as an amendment in the amendment filed July 30, 2008 in response to the Office Action of April 29, 2008. Claim 7 should have the original structure as depicted in the claims herein. Claims 7 and 142 are amended as shown herein to replace the structure of the Drug unit, D, with this original structure.

Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been introduced by virtue of these amendments. Because this amendment merely cures formal defects in some of the claims and does not touch the merits, no additional search is required and no more than a cursory review of the record is needed, and therefore the amendments do not require a substantial amount of work on the part of the Office. Applicant respectfully requests that these amendments be entered prior to issuance of the application.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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